

Tuesday, November 22, 1944

Free Romania Union Urged by Radescu

Former Premier Nicolas Radescu of Romania has issued an appeal to all Romanian exiles to form a new "Democratic Union of Free Romanians" to work for their country's liberation from Communist rule.

Radescu is now living in New York after a long exile in Cyprus. His all-party government was elected on February 28, 1943, after an ultimatum presented to King Michael by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky.

The overturn of Radescu's government was the first major Soviet violation of the Yalta agreement.

The Radescu appeal, broadcast to Romania last Saturday by the "Voice of America," suggested that "a comprehensive and solid organization" be set up without delay until the creation of a Romanian National Committee, presumably representing all the non-Communist Romanian political parties.

Radescu proposed that membership in his new group be open to all Romanians, except "those who held high office under the pro-Nazi and Communist governments."

foreign interests have caused harm to the national interest through their actions."

He said that more than fifty "prominent Romanians" already had said they would join the new organization.

"Our aim," he said, "is to fight until victorious for the liberation and restoration of Romania and the return of King Michael I to his rightful position as constitutional monarch." He announced that the council would be set up to direct the activities of the new union.

The National Peasant Party of Romania, which polled 70 per cent of the votes at the last constitutional election there, is affiliated with the International Peasant Union in this country. The new Radescu organization does not necessarily represent a class, the Peasant Union, and Radescu statement makes clear that the new group will be made up of individuals rather than representatives of Romanian parties.

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